

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/681,570

Examiner

Minh Dieu Nguyen

Applicant(s)

HARRIS, SCOTT C.

Art Unit

2137

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to November 17, 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,3-14 and 18.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


EMMANUEL L. MOISE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Scott C. Harris on 1/27/06.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 6

"A system as in claim 2" has been changed to

--A system as in claim 1--

In claim 7

"increasing a security of the computer when a user powers down the computer in response to being prompted to identify themselves."

has been changed to

--further comprising a failure processing routine, which processes failures in login by increasing security for each of a plurality of times when a login fails, and increasing a security of the computer when a user powers down the computer in response to being prompted to identify themselves.--

In claim 8

"allowing continued access to resources of the computer only so long as said second surroundings information does not differ from said first surroundings information

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by more than a specified relative amount of distance, and if said second surroundings information differs from said first surroundings information by more than said specified threshold, then requiring a new security operation to obtain said access to said resources.”

has been changed to

--allowing continued access to resources of the computer only so long as said second surroundings information does not differ from said first surroundings information by more than a specified relative amount of distance, and if said second surroundings information differs from said first surroundings information by more than said specified relative amount of distance, then requiring a new security operation to obtain said access to said resources.--

In claim 16

“Currently amended” has been changed to

--Withdrawn--

In claim 19

“Original” has been changed to

--Withdrawn--

In claim 20

“Original” has been changed to

--Withdrawn--

In claim 21

“Original” has been changed to

--Withdrawn--

Allowable Subject Matter

3. This action is in response to the communication dated November 17, 2005.

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The present invention is directed to a system of security protection on a portable computer. Each independent claim (claims 1, 7, 8 and 18) identifies the uniquely distinct features of detecting first surroundings information and controlling access to the computer based on the operation to identify user and a first surrounding, wherein the first surrounding is determined at a time of user identification. The closest prior arts, Murphy (6,317,500), Guthrie et al. (6,161,185), Murphy et al. (5,799,082) and Jones (5,289,540) fail to anticipate or render the above limitations obvious.

5. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Minh Dieu Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-3873. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 6:00-2:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Emmanuel Moise can be reached on 571-272-3865. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 571-272-2100.


mdn
2/3/06

Minh Dieu Nguyen
Examiner
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